

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

EXCISE

182

Book 9 Part

53-41

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WHEN HANDING YEST THIS EVENING TEXT OF SYG'S APPEAL TO CASTRO AND  
AND CASTRO'S REPLY (SEE SEPT 26) NARASIMHAN SAID SYG IS SERIOUSLY  
CONSIDERING ACCEPTING CASTRO'S INVITATION. HE IS INCLINED  
TO FEEL HIS PRESENCE IN CUBA WOULD LOWER TENSION CONSIDERABLY  
BY PERSUADING AMERICANS MISSILES ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE  
USED AGAINST THEM AND CUBANS THAT THEY ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE  
INVADED WHILE UN. SYG IS IN CUBA. HE INTERPRETS CASTRO'S  
REPLY MOREOVER TO INCLUDE AGREEMENT THAT CONSTRUCTION ON  
SITES WILL CEASE, THOUGH EXACT TIMING NOT YET CLEAR NOR IS  
QUESTION OPERABILITY OF MISSILES COVERED. YEST URGED  
NARASIMHAN TO ADVISE SYG CONTINUE PRESS THESE POINTS WITH BOTH  
CUBANS AND SOVS AS MATTERS OF UTMOST URGENCY WHICH MUST BE  
SETTLED IN SHORTEST TIME IF CRISIS IS NOT TO WORSEN.

SYG IS AT PRESENT THINKING OF GOING TO CUBA OCT 30 AND TAKING  
WITH HIM SUBSTANTIAL GROUP MAINLY COMPOSED OF TECHNICIANS WHO  
COULD BE USED AS EXPERT OBSERVERS AT MISSILE SITES IF AGREEMENT  
IS REACHED. TIME REQUIRED TO COLLECT THESE TECHNICIANS  
WAS ONE REASON FOR DELAYING UNTIL TUESDAY. SECOND REASON IS  
SYG'S DESIRE OBTAIN PRECISE PICTURE OF EXACTLY WHAT BOTH  
PARTIES INSIST ON HAVING AND ARE WILLING TO OFFER. NARASIMHAN  
SUGGESTED IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE US POSITION  
SPELLED OUT IN LETTER TO SYG. EACH PRESENT

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